

INFORMATION REPORT

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 SUPPLEMENT TO
 REPORT NO.

COUNTRY Indochina

25X1A SUBJECT Attitude of Population in Ho Chi Minh-Controlled Territory

 25X1C PLACE
 ACQUIRED [REDACTED]

 25X1C DATE OF
 INFO. [REDACTED]

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Although residents of Hanoi are not convinced of the imminence of a DRV offensive against the city, people coming from DRV-controlled zones say the DRV plans to encircle Hanoi by the beginning of 1952. DRV forces will not attack the city itself until after that time, however, but will attempt to cut off the road to Haiphong, while continuing to harass the surrounding French posts.

Many residents of the DRV zones believe that planes are being received from Communist China. DRV propaganda supports this belief by playing up the fact that DRV troops are being trained as pilots in China.

According to Vietnamese recently arrived from DRV zones, the morale of DRV troops is excellent and they are better organized and better trained than ever before. They also state that a large section of the population in DRV zones, heretofore politically apathetic, have become confirmed supporters of the Ho Chi Minh regime. Whereas previously the DRV was forced to resort to conscription of troops, the number of volunteers has substantially increased. This change in attitude has been caused largely by the vandalism of French and Moroccan soldiers.

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